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St. Louis. Practically the same force employed in the inspector's office has conducted the work of the free employment department. Blanks are given showing the forms of application, and methods of record. Between October 1, 1897, and October 1, 1898, 4661 applications for help were filled. Of these 1344 were for house-help, and 1064 for solicitors and salesmen. The number of persons registered desiring occupation was 7783. It is reported that many fraudulent employment agencies have been abandoned, so that where formerly there were 16 of these concerns in St. Louis, now there are only four.

The *Report of the Bank Commissioners of Connecticut, December 31, 1898* (Hartford, Conn.), points out that the savings banks are more and more being used by capitalists as a place to invest their money "where they receive a larger rate of interest than can be obtained elsewhere." The total number of depositors in the Connecticut savings banks increased 9149, but of the increase in the amount of deposits only \$348,618 is due to those depositors having less than \$1000 to their credit, leaving \$7,164,082 as the increase in the deposits of those having \$1000 and over to their credit. Of the 789 banks, two paid 5 per cent, eight paid 4 per cent, three $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, one 2 per cent, and three none.

The State Superintendent of the Public Schools of Maine in his report for the year ending June 1, 1898, calls attention to the increase of illiteracy in New England. It is shown that there are in Maine 210,000 persons between the ages of 4 and 21. The average attendance in the public schools during the past year was 96,000. There are 1000 more children in the State between 5 and 14 years of age than there are pupils enrolled. The number of children between 5 and 14 exceeds the average attendance by 87,000. It is asserted that the compulsory laws are not enforced.

The following resolutions were passed at the meeting of the American Forestry Association, held in Washington, December, 1898:—

Whereas, It is essential for intelligent lumber operations and the proper utilization and preservation of the forest resources of the United States, that statistical information of a reliable character shall be acquired as to the kinds and quantities of timber in all the States and Territories, and

Whereas, The Division of Forestry of the United States Department of Agriculture is eminently qualified to gather this information, it is therefore

Resolved, That the American Forestry Association at their annual meeting, held in Washington, December 14, 1898, petition the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States that provision be made and that a suitable appropriation be passed to enable the Division of Forestry of the United States Department of Agriculture to gather this information, either in advance of, or in connection with, the Twelfth Census.

The Manufacturer of Philadelphia, December 17, 1898, gives another illustration of the discrepancies which occur between the United States statistics of imports from Great Britain and the English statistics of exports to the United States. It is found in the British reports that England exported a certain number of locomotives to the United States in a given year. On consulting the American reports no locomotives are reported as being imported from England or any other country. "The difficulty is just this, that when the ship carrying these locomotives left the United Kingdom it sailed for New York or Boston and its cargo was put down to the United States. When it got here and the vessel was unloaded it was found that the locomotives were not for American consignees at all but for Canada, whither they were shipped at once. Our customs officers, of course, did not reckon them as imports to the United States, and so there is a loophole for great confusion."

Otto Hübner's Geographisch-statistische Tabellen aller Länder der Erde; 47th issue, 1898. Edited by Dr. Fr. v. Juraschek.

The total population of the earth is estimated at 1544.5 millions. Three new tables are added showing the division of populations according to age. The table for European population shows the division for religion according to the separate States. This excellent publication does not on many subjects include the United States Census returns of 1890.

The Municipal Year-Book of the United Kingdom for 1898, edited by Robert Donald (London, pp. 430), aims to describe the constructive work carried out by British municipalities. A special chapter is devoted to Municipal government in London. There are detailed sections given to municipal electric lighting and gas supply, housing of the working classes, free public libraries, markets, slaughter houses, technical education, and tramways.